

Calendar of Ministries

✝ Friday, January 22

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ Saturday, January 23

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ Sunday, January 24

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Teen ski trip to Snowshoe after worship

Session meets for lunch

✝ Monday, January 25

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ Tuesday, January 26

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard has resumed his teaching schedule at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College. His schedule includes classes on Tuesdays and Thursday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

✝ Wednesday, January 27

Morning Prayers at 8

Bible Club at the High School at 8:08

Choir at 7 p.m.

✝ Thursday, January 28

Morning Prayers at 8

Mr. Sherrard meets his classes today.

✝ Friday, January 29

Morning Prayers at 8

✝ Saturday, January 30

Evening Prayers at 8

✝ Sunday, January 31

Sunday School at 9:45

Morning Worship at 11

Possible Teen Ski Trip after worship

Bring your pennies on the 31st for our Four Cents Hunger Offering. Thanks!



The Weekly Word

**Windy Cove Presbyterian Church
January 21, 2016**

What's Happening in July?

No, it's not a misprint. Here, at Windy Cove, in the midst of the coldest weather that we have had for quite some time, expecting a deep snow on the weekend, we **really** are thinking about July. January is the time when we start recruiting for our annual mission trip to Haiti. In January we establish the dates; we check with our partners in Haiti about potential projects; we begin to assemble the team; and we start to look at airfares hoping to find one that fits our budget.

We have the dates! Our trip this summer will run from Monday, July 11 through Tuesday, July 19. Or, the way airline schedules usually work, our return might actually stretch into the early morning hours of July 20. These dates are about a week later than recent years because the 4th of July holiday actually falls on Monday which is also the best day to begin our travel. We don't want to get caught up in the celebration in Washington on our way to the airport.

In contact with our partners in Haiti, we are considering several different possibilities for a project. At the same time, we have received ex-

cellent news about the feeding program at Notre Dame School which we support.

Keith Logan, a director from Trinity Hope (the non-profit group that feeds school children in Haiti), recently wrote that the feeding program at Notre Dame is now on solid footing. For the first three months of the school year, 2,613 meals have been served to children, teachers, and cooks at Notre Dame. The average attendance per day including students and teachers has been around 50. Each person receives a nutritious meal, mainly of beans and rice, each school day. The cost for feeding a child for the school year is \$50.

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Take Note!

**Snow is coming!!
At least that's what they say.**

With the threat of snow in our forecast, we thought it would be a good opportunity to remind you of our snow policy at Windy Cove. **We do not cancel Sunday services at Windy Cove.** So far, even in really deep snows, Mr. Sherrard has been able to walk to the church on Sunday morning. However, we do caution folks to be very careful about coming out in bad weather. We do not want to see anyone stuck in the snow or injured in any way. Use good judgment.

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Millboro, VA 24460
Address Service
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U. S. Postage
Non-profit Org.
Permit # 2
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July? (Cont.)

With this encouraging news from Haiti, we have begun to actively recruit members for our team. We have already contacted several folks who have expressed interest in the past, but we are always looking to introduce new folks to our Haitian ministry. We are aiming for a team of 10 to 12 people. Pastor Rob Sherrard will be one of the team leaders for this summer's trip.

Last summer the cost of the trip was \$925 per person. We did find a surprisingly low airfare of \$450 which helped to keep the cost down. In order to make airline reservations, we need to know the members of the team. So, the sooner we assemble our team, the sooner we can make our reservations. Earlier reservations usually mean cheaper fares. Nevertheless, we fully expect to be able to keep the cost below \$1,000 per person.

Many people who have made the trip with us through the years have said that the experience was life-changing for them. The impact of the trip has been one reason why so many folks have made the journey more than one time. If you sense the Holy Spirit nudging you toward this ministry, let Rob Sherrard know. Rob will also be glad to answer any questions that you have about the trip. Also, check out the bulletin board in the vestibule for some pictures and letters that we recently received from our Haitian partners. Perhaps you will sense God's call.

Focus on God's Word

For three weeks Windy Covians have been concentrating in worship on becoming new persons in Christ. We have talked about God's new covenant in Jesus, about each individual's opportunity to become a new person in Christ, and about the cosmic implications of God creating a new heaven and a new earth.

Additionally, we gave consideration to the practical steps necessary to live out this new life with Jesus. On Sunday, January 17, we focused on one part of these practical steps: the engagement with the written Word of God in the Bible. Probably no means for Christian growth is more important than reading, studying, and meditating upon God's Word.

In Psalm 119 the psalmist highlights the benefits of this concentration on the Word. For example, the psalmist tells us that the Word keeps us pure, brings us joy, soothes our grief, leads to our salvation, is completely dependable, and helps us grow in many more ways. A summary of many of these ideas appears in Verse 105: "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

The congregation then considered some practical suggestions for Bible study and meditation. First, once is not enough. Reading a portion of the Bible or the whole Bible one time is not enough. To begin with, the treasures found in the Bible are too many to be mined at one time.

The treasure of God's Word is more than sufficient to be mined over a lifetime of reading and studying.

Secondly, during our lives, we change. The change in our activities, in our life situations, and in our inner selves means that we read and understand God's Word differently at different times in our lives.

Another practical suggestion for Bible reading is this: some is better than none. Many of us have been faced with the challenge of reading the Bible, and we give up because that challenge seems overwhelming. It is a big book! However, the key is not to give up but to read at least a little bit on a daily or regular basis. Even just a verse a day or a page a day or a chapter a day makes a difference in building our relationship with God and growing in Christ.

If we are faithful to remain in God's Word, God's is faithful to bless us with the benefits of that Word.

What's Next?

In worship at Windy Cove during the next few weeks, we will make the transition from the Christmas and New Year season to the season of Lent and Easter. Easter falls on an early date this year on Sunday, March 27. An early Easter means that Lent begins February 10, Ash Wednesday.

In preparation for Lent, we will encourage our worshipers to think about what happens to Jesus after Christmas. Christmas is a wonderful time of the year, both in the church

and in the world. Although sometimes hectic, the Christmas season does seem to put people in the "Christmas spirit." The decorations, the lights, the presents, the special services at church all contribute to this atmosphere of expectation and hope. But, what happens after Christmas? Is it just the winter doldrums until Spring?

To address some of these questions from a personal and theological point of view, Mr. Sherrard will begin a new series of messages entitled Why Do You Need Jesus? During the coming weeks, we will together look at various aspects and answers to that intriguing question. Hey, what do you think?

Food Pantry: Tomato Juice, Mixed Vegetables, Macaroni

Because of Bea Clark's efficient management and her faithful helpers, our Food Pantry moves along nearly silently from month to month. When something is working so well, we tend to take it for granted; but we should not. Our local Food Pantry is a big ministry. In recent years the number of households that we serve has steadily increased from about 30 to 40 a month to more than 60 or 70 each month.

To encourage these faithful ministers and to enhance this important ministry, we are looking for vegetable soup items between now and the February Food Pantry which falls on February 9. Cans of mixed vegetables, tomato juice, and boxes of macaroni can be placed in the box in the vestibule for the next few weeks. Here's your opportunity to help and to show your appreciation for those who administer this program.